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Diana T Fritz 06/05/2007 04:23:37 PM From DB/Inbox: Search Results

Cable
Text:

UNCLASSIFIED

SIPDIS
TELEGRAM

January 07, 2003

To: No Action Addressee
Action: Unknown
From: AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI (ABU DHABI 50 - ROUTINE)
TAGS: ETTTC
Captions: None
Subject: EXTRANCHECK: PRELICENSE CHECK CSI MIDDLE EAST
Ref: None

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 00050

SIPDIS
CXABU:
INFO: ECON DCM AMB
Laser1:
ACTION: FCS

DISSEMINATION: FCS
CHARGE: FCS

APPROVED: FCS: JLANCIA
DRAFTED: FCS: MARY O'BRIEN
CLEARED: ECON: CMARTIN-CRUMPLER

VZCZCADI396
RR RUCPDO RUEHC RUEHRO RUEHDI RHFJUSC
DE RUEHAD #0050 0070627
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 070627Z JAN 03
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO RUCPDO/USDOC WASHDC
INFO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7740
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 0652
RUEHDI/AMCONSUL DUBAI 2674
RHFJUSC/USCUSTOMS HQ WASHINGTON DC

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 000050

SIPDIS

USDOC FOR 532/OEA/STWADDY/MICHELLE ZAGER
SECSTATE FOR EB/ESP
US CUSTOMS HQ FOR STRATEGIC INVESTIGATIONS
ROME FOR CUSTOMS ATTACHE
DUBAI FOR FCS
USDOC 3151 FOR FCS OIO/DIRECTOR

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: [ETTC](#) [TC](#)
SUBJECT: EXTRANCHECK: PRELICENSE CHECK CSI MIDDLE EAST
REF(S): USDOC 06224; APPLICATION NO. D302748

1. ON 17 DEC COMMERCIAL OFFICER MARY O'BRIEN MET WITH EMAD BITAR OF CSI MIDDLE EAST AND COR CORBEEK OF EMERSON EUROPE REGARDING PRELICENSE CHECK REQUESTED IN REFTTEL.
2. EMERSON PROCESS MANAGEMENT, FORMERLY EMERSON ELECTRIC, HAS RECENTLY PURCHASED COMPUTATIONAL SYSTEMS, INC, (CSI) OF KNOXVILLE, TN. (WWW.CSIMEANSRELIABILITY.COM) CSI IS KNOWN TO COMMOFF AS A DISTRIBUTOR OF THERMAL IMAGING EQUIPMENT,

INCLUDING FLIR, IN SOUTHEAST ASIA.

¶3. EARLIER IN THE DAY, COMMOFF O'BRIEN MET WITH MR. BITAR AT MEOS REGARDING ANOTHER PRELICENSE CHECK (D302543) THAT ALSO INVOLVED CSI. DURING THAT MEETING, MR. BITAR OF CSI SAID HE WAS UNAWARE OF ANOTHER ORDER AND PERHAPS HIS BOSS HAD ORDERED IT WITHOUT HIS KNOWLEDGE. ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE TO MEET AT THE PREMISES OF EMERSON/CSI LATER THAT DAY.

¶4. EMERSON AND CSI MIDDLE EAST SHARE OFFICE SPACE IN THE JEBEL ALI FREE ZONE. COMOFF MET WITH BITAR AND HIS MANAGER, COR CORBEEK. CORBEEK EXPLAINED THE CAMERA WOULD BE USED IN TRAINING CLASSES AT EMERSON'S FACILITY FOR PEOPLE FROM AROUND THE GULF REGION, NORTH AFRICA, AND SOUTH ASIA. COMOFF VISITED A CLASS IN SESSION THAT INCLUDED REPRESENTATIVES FROM MOROCCO, UAE, AND KUWAIT, AS WELL AS A LARGE WELL EQUIPPED STOREROOM WHERE CSI/EMERSON KEEP A VARIETY OF INSTRUMENTS FOR TRAINING PURPOSES.

¶5. WHEN ASKED WHO PLACED THE ORDER ON CSI EUROPE, CORBEEK SAID IT WAS BITAR, WHO HAD EARLIER SAID HE WAS UNAWARE OF THE TRANSACTION. WHEN ASKED FOR A COPY THE PURCHASE ORDER CSI MIDDLE EAST HAD SENT TO CSI EUROPE, BITAR SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO LOOK FOR IT AND FAX IT TO THE FCS OFFICE. THE PURCHASE ORDER IS DATED 12/19 TWO DAYS AFTER THE VISIT AND WAS FAXED TO THE FCS OFFICE ON 12/22. IT ALSO APPEARS THE PURCHASE ORDER WAS PLACED ON CSI IN THE U.S. RATHER THAN ELECTROPHYSICS BECAUSE IT SAYS EX WORKS KNOXVILLE WHICH IS WHERE CSI IS HEADQUARTERED.

¶6. ON 12/23, COMMOFF RECEIVED A LETTER FROM MR. BITAR WHEREIN HE FIRST SAYS THE ORDER WAS FOR AN UNNAMED CUSTOMER IN RAS AL KHAIMAH. COMOFF HAS ATTEMPTED TO CONTACT CSI TO CLARIFY THE IDENTITY OF THE CUSTOMER IN RAS AL KHAIMAH BUT IT APPEARS THE CSI IS CLOSED DURING THIS HOLIDAY WEEK. THE LETTER THEN GOES ON TO SAY THE UNIT WILL BE KEPT IN BELGIUM AND USED IN TRAINING IN A VARIETY OF PLACES INCLUDING THE MIDDLE EAST. NO MENTION WAS MADE OF THIS DURING THE MEETING AT CSI/EMERSON. THE LETTER AND PURCHASE ORDER DOCUMENTS HAVE BEEN IMAGED AND CAN BE EMAILED FOR EA AND INTERAGENCY REVIEW.

¶7. CONTACTS MADE BY OEE HQ (MICHELLE ZAGER) TO THE APPLICANT, ELECTROPHYSICS, INDICATE THEY HAVE NO DOCUMENTATION OF THIS ORDER, STATING THEY ARE ACTING AS A MIDDLEMAN BETWEEN RAYTHEON AND CSI. ELECTROPHYSICS SAYS CSI BELGIUM WILL BE THE OWNER OF THE CAMERA AND WILL SEND IT TO DISTRIBUTORS AS NEEDED AND THEN HAVE THE DISTRIBUTORS RETURN THE CAMERA TO BELGIUM WHEN NOT IN USE.

¶8. NOTE THAT THE SALE OF A CAMERA TO MEOS WAS SUPPORTED BY A BXA-711 BUT THAT NO BXA-711 APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN COMPLETED BY CSI MIDDLE EAST IN THIS CASE. PERHAPS ELECTROPHYSICS CONSIDERS THIS AN EXPORT FOR DEMONSTRATION; HOWEVER, IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER DEMONSTRATION INCLUDES TRAINING IN THE USE AND OPERATION OF THE CAMERA AND ACCOMPANYING SOFTWARE.

¶9. CSI MIDDLE EAST IS THE SOLE PRESENCE OF CSI IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD. THEY ARE A LEGITIMATE COMPANY WITH A LEGITIMATE NEED FOR THIS PRODUCT, ALTHOUGH THEY WERE SOMEWHAT EVASIVE IN THEIR ANSWERS.

¶10. THE MAIN FOCUS OF THIS CHECK THOUGH REVEALS THAT THE OWNER, CONSIGNEE AND PARTY FIRST RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPLIANCE WITH ANY LICENSE CONDITIONS WOULD BE CSI EUROPE. COMOFF SUGGESTS THAT CSI EUROPE AS WELL AS CSI MIDDLE EAST BE REQUIRED TO AGREE IN ADVANCE TO ANY LICENSE CONDITIONS, INCLUDING A SECURITY PLAN AND PROHIBITIONS ON TRAINING PERSONNEL FOR EMBARGOED DESTINATIONS.

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